

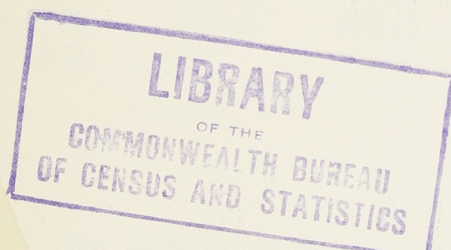
25 MAY 1951

15th May, 1951.

B.S.E. 1951/3

NEW SOUTH WALES.

DIGEST OF CURRENT STATISTICS.



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PART 1 : EMPLOYMENT AND NON-RURAL INDUSTRIES.

EMPLOYMENT - New South Wales.

Recent employment trends are shown by the table below. These figures exclude rural workers (of whom there were 34,000 men and 2,000 women permanently employed in March 1950, women domestics in homes (52,000 in 1939 but probably less than half that number now), and defence personnel (12,700 men in February 1950 and 15,500 in February 1951).

WAGE & SALARY EARNERS - NEW SOUTH WALES. Excluding Rural Workers and Female Domestics in Private Households - in Thousands.

		<u>Employment</u>			<u>Increase on previous year</u>		
		<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
July	- 1939	529.9	168.0	697.9			
March	- 1949	717.5	269.1	986.6	21.7	9.0	30.7
February	- 1950	735.1	276.1	1,011.2			
March	- 1950	736.7	278.7	1,015.4	19.2	9.6	28.8
February	- 1951	754.4	288.3	1,042.7			
March	- 1951						

The accession to the work force from migrants from displaced persons' camps reached a peak early in 1950 with an average of over 2,000 a month; since then the number of new arrivals has been falling while more and more are being released from Government contract so that the new number of those under contract is now rising only at the rate of a few hundred a month with a total of 21,949 men and 6,080 women at the end of April.

NET PLACEMENT OF NEW AUSTRALIANS (From D.P. Camps) N.S.W. & A.C.T.

Excludes staff at Reception Camps & Camp Hospitals

	<u>Persons placed in Quarter</u>				<u>Total Placed at end of April</u>		
	<u>March.</u>	<u>June.</u>	<u>September.</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Persons</u>
1948	n.a.	292	918	1,433	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1949	978	2,488	4,019	4,102	1,047	576	1,623
1950	6,246	2,486	1,509	1,998	16,351	4,939	21,290
1951	1,350	.	.	.	21,949	6,080	28,029

Displaced workers on Government contract provided over half of the employment increase in the past two years for factories, building and construction and certain services. Placements have been concentrated on industries of basic importance or suffering from especially severe labour shortages. The men are working mainly in the iron & steel and other metal industries, on building jobs and construction work for public utilities, while the majority of the women are employed as helpers in hospitals, hotels or homes and in factories (textile, clothing, food and electrical machinery).

DISPLACED PERSONS UNDER CONTRACT - N.S.W. & A.C.T. - as at 27th April, 1951.

	<u>Men.</u>	<u>Women.</u>	<u>Men.</u>	<u>Women.</u>	<u>Persons.</u>
<u>FACTORIES -</u>					
Bricks, Cement etc. ...	1,118	70			
Iron & Steel (Basic) ...	2,023	11			
Other Metal & Machinery ...	3,157	572			
Textiles ...	376	507			
Clothing & Footwear ...	173	601			
Sawmilling, Furniture etc. ..	821	61			
Other Factories ...	1,738	825			
Total Factories ...			9,406	2,647	12,053
<u>BUILDING &amp; CONSTRUCTION -</u>					
Buildings ...	796	1			
Railway Construction ...	3,887	8			
Water Storage etc. ...	2,050	1			
Other Construction ...	1,329	40			
Total Building & Construction			8,062	50	8,112
Transport & Communication ...			1,324	43	1,367
Health Services ...			406	1,194	1,600
Hotels, Restaurants, etc. ...			340	752	1,092
Other (excl. Rural & Women Domestics)			829	388	1,217
TOTAL (Excl. Rural & Women Domestics)			20,367	5,074	25,441
Rural Industries ...			1,582	247	1,829
Women in private domestic service				759	759
TOTAL IN EMPLOYMENT			21,949	6,080	28,029



Commonwealth Employment Service reports for New South Wales, covering the 13 weeks ended 23rd February, 1951, indicate that power cuts and coal shortages have somewhat reduced the demand for factory labour although most industries could apparently still absorb additional workers. Unfilled vacancies registered for factories fell from 22,943 at the end of November 1950 to 21,381 in February 1951; about half of these vacancies were in the metal trades. Labour requisitions for building and construction continued to increase and were 7,360 in February. The total of 43,717 vacancies registered in the State was about five times the number of applicants for jobs (8,567). The latter included 3,250 persons who either sought a change of job or only part-time work, and 5,317 stated to be out of work; many of the latter are suffering from disabilities (e.g. about 300 incapacitated miners), and difficulties in placement are also found in one or two occupations (e.g. certain clerical workers) and in a few country towns. But generally the labour shortage is just as pronounced in country centres as in the metropolitan area. The number of persons drawing unemployment benefit, 170 at end of February, is insignificant in proportion to the total work force.

COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE - N.S.W. & A.C.T. - 23rd February, 1951.

	<u>Seeking Placement</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>Unfilled Vacancies.</u>	<u>Receiving Unemployment or Re-empl. Benefit.</u>
	<u>Disengaged</u>	<u>Others(1)</u>			
Males -					
Youths	452	138	590	7,965	
Adults	2,845	1,613	4,458	24,314	
Total	3,297	1,751	5,048	32,279	111
Females -					
Youths	598	214	812	2,709	
Adults	1,422	1,285	2,707	8,729	
Total	2,020	1,499	3,519	11,438	59
Persons	5,317	3,250	8,567	43,717	170

(1) Seeking change of job or part-time work.

JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT - New South Wales.

Because of the low birthrate of the early 1930's the number of school-leavers has been comparatively small in recent years; from 1935 onward the birthrate began to recover and the number leaving State schools in New South Wales in 1950, about 31,000 was a little higher than in 1949 and 1948. But in 1950 more went on to full-time study (private schools, University, etc.) so the number available for employment was only about the same as in 1949 and 1948 and well below the 1939 figure. Of 13,719 boys listed as entering jobs in 1950, 28% intended to enter trades, another 28% to work in factories and other unskilled jobs, 16% in commercial jobs and 17% in rural industries. There has been a tendency in recent years for more boys to enter skilled trades and professional careers while the number seeking rural jobs is now much smaller than before the war. The number of girls seeking jobs on leaving school rather than 'home duties' has risen greatly since the 1930's. Most of the girls go into shops and offices or into the dressmaking trades, while fewer are now taking factory jobs or paid domestic work.

INTENDED OCCUPATIONS OF SCHOOL LEAVERS - N.S.W. STATE SCHOOLS.

Occupation Groups.	BOYS				GIRLS			
	1933	1939	1949	1950x	1933	1939	1949	1950x
Trades (a) ...	1,496	2,306	3,741	3,842	797	1,060	1,260	1,539
Factory Hands ...	492	1,297	920	918	526	1,038	934	859
Pastoral & Agricultural	2,965	1,813	1,075	972	.	.	.	.
Clerks & Shop Assistants	2,392	2,994	2,236	2,117	1,429	1,996	4,468	4,512
Professions & Public								
Servants ...	557	699	933	1,004	128	152	752	579
Unskilled (b) ...	3,419	4,358	2,626	2,852	455	669	452	392
Others (c) ...	3,554	2,181	1,788	2,014	9,770	7,894	4,169	4,167
Total for Occupations	14,875	15,648	13,319	13,719	13,105	12,809	12,035	12,048
Full-time Students	1,641	1,947	1,557	1,920	2,501	4,106	2,911	3,338
TOTAL ...	16,516	17,595	14,876	15,639	15,606	16,915	14,946	15,386

x. 1950 figures are preliminary only. (a) For girls: dressmakers, milliners and miscellaneous. (b) for girls: domestic service only. (c) Includes occupations unknown and, for girls, home duties.



COAL PRODUCTION - New South Wales.

Coal production in New South Wales in February and March, when weekly one-day stoppages occurred, averaged about 220,000 tons; it rose to 286,000 tons and 288,000 tons in the two weeks ended 31st April. Total output in 1951 up to the 21st April was  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mill. tons as against  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mill. tons in the corresponding period of 1950. The decrease was only in underground mines; production from open cuts was appreciably greater in 1951 than in earlier years and made up 15% of the total.

COAL PRODUCTION - New South Wales - in thousand tons.

	Year -				Sixteen Weeks ended -		
	1947	1948	1949	1950	23/4/49	22/4/50	21/4/51
Underground ...	10,724	10,466	9,388	11,197	2,911	2,113	2,760
Open Cut ...	959	1,255	1,348	1,601	393	409	492
TOTAL ...	11,683	11,721	10,736	12,798	3,304	3,522	3,252

GAS & ELECTRICITY - New South Wales.

Gas and electricity production in this State during the current year has been appreciably higher than in recent years. Electricity generation for the nine months ended March has risen from 2040 mill. kWh. in 1946 to 2684 mill. kWh. in 1950 and 3154 mill. kWh. in 1951, - that is about twice the pre-war rate. But the demand has risen faster and in recent months supplies in the interconnected system have had to be interrupted periodically. On 30th April 1951 a zoning system was introduced which forbids the use of electricity for industry and commerce (with a few exceptions) for one day out of every five working days (including Saturday).

	Month of March -			Nine Months ended March -			
	1949	1950	1951	1946	1949	1950	1951
<u>PRODUCTION - N.S.W.</u>							
Gas, mill. cub.ft.	1,531	1,552	1,577	10,949	13,477	13,048	14,311
Electricity, mill. kWh.	324	349	351	2,040	2,788	2,684	3,154
<u>CONSUMPTION - Sydney - Gas &amp; Electricity; seasonally adjusted Index</u>							
	191	197	201	147x	179x	178x	

x. Index for year ended June.

IRON & STEEL PRODUCTION - New South Wales.

Iron and steel output in March 1951 recovered from the comparatively low level of January and February. For the nine months ended March production of pig iron was 18% and of ingot steel 16% greater than in 1949-50 and the highest for any post-war year.

Production - in thousand tons.

	1950	1951	1951	1951	Nine Months ended March -			
	Mar.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	1947	1949	1950	1951
Pig Iron - N.S.W.	79	75	81	93	693	661	728	859
Pig Iron - Whyalla S.A.	10	10	5	6	166	126	96	107
Ingot Steel -N.S.W.	110	93	97	107	940	855	903	1045

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS.

Passenger traffic in the first nine months of 1950-51, 200 millions, was higher than in earlier years while freight traffic was a little below the post-war average, apparently because of temporary time-table restrictions. Freight and fare increases were introduced in October-November 1950; railway revenue in the five months since November 1950 exceeded that for the same period of 1949-50 at the average rate of £485,000 a month. Working expenses continue to rise and they exceeded gross earnings in February and March 1951 by a total of £100,000, thus reducing the accumulated surplus on working account to £710,000 at the end of March 1951; in earlier post-war years (excepting 1949-50 which included the general coal strike) the nine months had yielded a surplus on working account of between £4 mill. to £5 mill. Capital debt charges to be met from the working surplus are budgeted at £7.86 mill. for the year 1950-51.



NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

Year	Nine Months ended March					Month of March	
	Passenger Journeys	Goods (excl. Livestock)	Gross Earnings	Working Expenses	Net (a) Earnings	Gross Earnings	Working Expenses.
	Millions	Mill. tons	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.
1939	141.2	10.84	14.22	10.48	3.74	1.63	1.17
1948	196.6	12.99	27.20	22.23	4.97	3.27	2.49
1949	196.2	12.99	29.61	25.74	3.87	3.45	3.03
1950	189.4	11.71	29.05	27.95	2.10	3.79	3.41
1951	200.1	12.70	35.40	34.69	.71	4.06	4.08

(a) Excess of gross earnings over working expenses; excluding Government contribution of £300,000 for developmental lines and Commonwealth grant of £3m. in 1949-50.

MOTOR VEHICLES - New South Wales.

Registrations of new motor cars in March quarter 1951 were at the rate of 3,310 a month, about the same as a year earlier and about twice the pre-war average. At the end of March 1951 299,616 cars were on the State register, an increase of 43,216 over the past twelve months. New registrations of lorries, utilities and vans continue to increase; the total on the register has doubled over the past six years.

REGISTRATIONS OF MOTOR VEHICLES - New South Wales.

Period.	New Vehicles Registered			Civilian Vehicles on Register.		
	Cars.	Lorries. Utilities & Vans.		Buses, Taxis & Hire Cars.	Lorries Utilities & Vans.	Total of Forgoing.
	Monthly Av. or Month			As at end of period		
Av. 1937-1939 (June)	1,764	763	213,331	4,708	76,726	294,765
1949	2,484	1,201	247,674	6,708	149,022	403,404
1950	4,208	2,233	291,832	7,449	170,894	470,175
March Qtr. 1949	1,787	836	226,768	6,408	137,267	370,443
1950	3,367	1,694	256,403	6,818	153,525	416,746
1951	3,310	2,376	299,619	7,505	175,908	483,032

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES - New South Wales.

Compared with earlier periods dispute losses in New South Wales coal mines were fairly heavy in March quarter 1951. About one half of the 146,000 man-working days lost in the quarter was due to six one-day stoppages (in consecutive weeks) by the 13,400 miners in protest against an award. Dispute losses in other industries were near the aggregate for this quarter in recent years. Most of the disputes occurred on the waterfront and in the engineering and steel industries.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES - New South Wales - Thousand Man-Days lost.

	Quarterly Averages			March Quarter					
	1937-39	1946-48	1950	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Coal Mines	117	97	76	59	138	140	88	105	146
Other Employment	44	138	86	71	473	87	77	51	86
TOTAL	161	235	162	130	611	227	165	156	232



# WAGES AND SALARIES - New South Wales.

The post-war upward trend in wage and salary rates accelerated in 1950. The nominal wage rate index for adult males in New South Wales, which is based on weekly award rates, rose by 13% in the December quarter, making an increase of 22% for the full year. The basic wage for adult males in Sydney rose from £6.12. 0 in November 1949 to £7. 6. 0 in 1950; the special increase of 19/- granted in December and further quarterly rises brought it to £9 in May 1951, as compared with about £4 in 1939 and £4. 8. 0 when wage-pegging was introduced in 1941; the female basic wage has trebled since 1939, from £2. 4. 0 to £6. 15. 0. Total weekly wage and salary payments in New South Wales, estimated from Pay Roll Tax data, rose by 19% in the year 1950 to £11.18 mill. in the December quarter; total employment increased by 4% during this period so that most of the rise was due to higher average earnings which were £10. 1. 0 in December quarter 1949 and £11.12. 0 in December quarter 1950. This is the average per male unit, and (includes salaries, overtime and payments in excess of awards). Movements in this series which represents actual earnings and in those representing the terms fixed under awards and in the basic wage are compared in the following table.

AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES AND EARNINGS, New South Wales (incl. A.C.T.)  
(Figures in brackets indicate per cent. increase on previous year)

	Total Weekly Wages Paid.	Average Weekly Earnings (a)	Weekly Basic Wage, Sydney (b)	Nominal Wage Rate Index, Adult Males (c)
	£mill.	£ per male unit	£ s. d.	1938-39 = 1000
Year 1941-42	4.20	5.15. 6	4. 10. 6	1131
Dec. Qtr. 1946	5.95	7. 2. 0	5. 1. 0	1376
1947	7.23	8. 3. 0	5. 12. 0	1485
1948	8.44	9. 5. 0	6. 2. 0	1679
1949	9.39	10. 1. 0	6. 12. 0	1808
Sept. Qtr. 1950	9.99	10. 9. 0	7. 2. 0	1940
Dec. Qtr. 1950	11.18	11.12. 0	7. 6. 0	2201

(a) Includes overtime, loadings, piecework earnings. Male units derived by adding 45% of female employment to male employment.

(b) Adult males, Sydney (as fixed during quarter shown).

(c) Seasonally adjusted.

## GOVERNMENT TRAMS & BUSES - Sydney and Newcastle.

In the four months after fares were raised in October 1950 monthly earnings rose to an average of £887,000, or £108,000 more than in the corresponding period of 1949-50, but at the same time working expenses increased by an average of £148,000 to £945,000 a month. Since 1950 working expenses exceeded earnings every month, making an accumulated deficiency of £615,000 on working account for the nine months ended March 1951 or £405,000 more than at this time of last year. Depreciation and debt charges which are not included in working expenses are budgeted at £675,000 for the full year 1950-51.

## GOVERNMENT TRAMS AND BUSES - Sydney and Newcastle.

	Nine Months ended March			Month of March		
	Gross (a) Earnings	Working Expenses	Net Working Surplus (b)	Gross (a) Earnings	Working Expenses	Net Working Surplus (b)
	£ t h o u s a n d					
1939	3,269	2,769	500	382	311	71
1949	6,456	6,250	206	805	719	86
1950	6,800(c)	7,010	(-)210	799	815	(-)16
1951	7,555	8,170	(-)615	934	1032	(-)98

(a) Fares were increased from 1st July, 1947, 29th November, 1948 and 9th October, 1950.

(b) Available to meet debt charges; (-) indicates deficiency.

(c) Excluding Commonwealth grant of £200,000 to meet strike losses.



PART II : FINANCE AND TRADE.

TRADING BANKS - Australia.

Bank deposit figures show up the quickening rate of monetary expansion. During the first seven months of the current export season (August 1950 to March 1951) deposits with the principal trading banks rose by £302m. to £1,285m. as compared with the rises in the corresponding periods of £216m. in 1949-50, £128m. in 1948-49 and £77m. in 1947-48. A major factor in this trend is the inflow of overseas funds from trade surplus and capital migration, as shown in the rise of £106m. in 'London funds' held by the Central Bank between August 1950 and March 1951. Trading bank advances rose by £63m. over the seven months. Recent restrictions on new loans have not had a noticeable effect, and in the first quarter of the year when advances are usually stable or falling they increased in 1951 by £17m. to £507m. Another source of new funds in 1950-51 has been the rise in the Treasury bill issue, in particular in March 1951 when the war gratuity payments were made which in turn increased trading and savings bank deposits. Only a small portion of the deposit additions in March 1951 were absorbed on Special Account.

PRINCIPAL TRADING BANKS - Business within Australia.

Month (Weekly Averages)	Deposits at	Balances	Advances	Public	Special	Treas	Cash	Ratios to	
	Credit of Customers (a)	due to Other Banks.	to Custom- ers (a).	Secur- ities	A/c.with C'wth. Bank.	-ury Bills	Items	Advan- ces	Special A/c.
	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.	%	%
1939- March	322	1	285	22	.	25	34	89	.
1948- March	706	18	334	59	275	26	49	47	39
1949- March	826	31	360	65	365	28	48	44	44
1950- February	967	34	400	92	410	32	52	42	41
- March	1007	34	405	93	434	35	55	40	43
- April	1018	41	415	95	457	29	54	41	45
- August	983	45	444	97	441	16	52	45	45
1951- January	1159	49	482	86	498	42	65	42	43
- February	1198	59	495	92	523	42	61	41	44
- March	1285	44	507	91	532	58	70	40	41

(a) Following technical adjustments in bank returns, deposits and advances were reduced by £9 million as from January, 1949 and a further £3 million in July, 1949.

A classification of advances granted by the trading banks and trading departments of the Commonwealth Bank in New South Wales and A.C.T. shows that during the past two years the principal increases were in building and trade finance, while credit requirements by graziers declined and those for other rural industries and manufacturing rose very little. As a percentage of the total in December 1950 building finance was 23% (17% in 1948), commerce 19% (15%), the primary industries 18% (26%) and manufacturing 16% (20%).

ADVANCES - TRADING BANKS & TRADING DEPARTMENTS OF COMMONWEALTH BANK.  
Classified according to main business or purpose. N.S.W. & A.C.T.

	December 1948	December 1949	December 1950
	£ Million		
Agricultural & Dairying	17	18	19
Grazing	27	25	24
Manufacturing	33	34	37
Commerce	26	28	45
Finance, excluding Building...	11	13	15
Building & Home Purchase -			
Building Societies	13	17	23
Individual Loans	15	21	32
Other Personal Loans	9	11	17
Other Loans	16	20	24
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>167</u>	<u>187</u>	<u>236</u>



# SAVINGS BANK - New South Wales.

The crediting of war gratuities was the main reason for a rise in new deposits with the Commonwealth Savings Bank in New South Wales from an average of under £20 mill. a month to £38½ mill. in March 1951; a portion of these credits were evidently withdrawn during the month and on balance £14.3 mill. remained to be added to total balances which reached £278.7 mill. at the end of March.

## SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (£million).

Period.	New South Wales			TOTAL DEPOSITS	
	Deposits Lodged.	Withdrawals Made	Net Increase.	End of Period N.S.W.	End of Period Australia.
Year 1938-39	68.2x	67.2	1.0x	87.5	245.6
Year 1949-50	205.7x	191.3	14.4x	258.9	762.1
1950 - January	16.2	14.6	1.6	250.6	735.8
February	16.3	15.1	1.2	251.8	739.2
March	19.7	18.9	0.8	252.6	741.8
1951 - January	18.4	16.9	1.5	261.7	773.7
February	20.2	17.5	2.7	264.4	780.2
March	38.5	24.2	14.3	278.7	817.8

x. Including interest credits of £1.6 m. in 1938-39 and £4.2 m. in 1949-50.

A net increase of £37.6m. to £317.3m. in savings bank deposits in Australia reflects the payment of £56m. in War Gratuities a large proportion of which was credited to savings accounts.

## RETAIL TRADE - Large Sydney Stores.

Comparing sales values with the corresponding period of the preceding year, increases in January and February 1951 were appreciably greater than average increases in 1949 and 1950. They extended to all major departments and were particularly marked in the piece goods section. Rising prices and purchases in anticipation of further rises have probably been important factors in raising turnovers. Stock values of piece goods at the end of February 1951 were 17½% less than a year previously and for most clothing items they changed but little over the year. Rises in stock values occurred mainly in the furniture, electrical, fancy and sports goods departments.

## RETAIL TRADE - LARGE SYDNEY STORES.

Percentage increase or decrease (-) on corresponding period of previous year.

Months or Quarter	VALUE OF SALES				VALUE OF STOCKS (End of Period)			
	1947	1949	1950	1951	1947	1949	1950	1951
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
January-February	14	14	10	35	39	9	3	10
June Quarter	19	6	10		38	7	6	
September Quarter	24	(-)5	33		30	7	3	
December Quarter	17	10	16		26	5	9	
YEAR	19	7	17		33	7	6	

## RETAIL CENSUS.

(1947-48 and 1948-49 figures are based on complete census data and 1949-50 figures on a sample survey).

NEW SOUTH WALES. The value of sales in New South Wales retail establishments increased by 19% between 1947-48 and 1948-49 and by a further 17% between 1948-49 and 1949-50. The value in 1949-50 was £533m. No State details for 1949-50 have yet been published and the following comparisons refer to the two preceding years. By far the largest proportional increases between 1947-48 and 1948-49 were in the sale of motor vehicles and parts (44%) and motor repairs (68%). The principal sales groups in 1948-49 were foodstuffs with 28% of the total and clothing, footwear and drapery with 20%. Per head of population the value of sales was £150 and of other takings £14 in 1948-49 as against £129 and £8 in 1947-48. About half of the State's population is in the metropolitan area (see note (b) below) but sales of clothing, drapery,

/furniture.....



furniture, household goods, motor vehicles and parts are higher there than in the rest of the State; altogether 58% of retail sales were transacted in the metropolitan area. Within this division sales in Sydney itself totalled £144 mill. and the principal other local government areas were Parramatta (£10m.), Marrickville and Canterbury (£8m. each), Randwick and Leichhardt (£7m. each), North Sydney, Waverley and Hurstville (£6m. each); outside the metropolitan area turnovers were largest in Newcastle (£22m.) and Wollongong (£9m.). Three per cent of establishments in New South Wales had turnovers exceeding £50,000 in 1948-49 and handled 40% of total sales.

RETAIL SALES BY COMMODITIES, NUMBER OF ESTABLISHMENTS & SALES VALUE - N.S.W.

Commodity Group.	Number 30/6/1949 (a)			Value of Sales		
	Metrop. Area (b)	Other Areas	Total	1947-48 £mill.	1948-49 £mill.	% increase over year.
Groceries .....	4,952	5,452	10,404	51	57	12%
Confectionery, Ice Cream, Soft Drinks .....	3,992	5,683	9,675	12	13	12%
Other Types of Food .....	9,383	10,040	19,423	51	60	17%
Clothing, Footwear, Drapery etc.	3,202	4,196	7,398	82	98	19%
Furniture, Floor Coverings ...	386	651	1,037	17	19	12%
Newspapers, Books, Stationery ..	1,047	1,814	2,861	11	12	12%
Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, etc.	1,008	2,546	3,554	43	61	41%
Other Goods .....	11,717	16,786	28,503	119	138	16%
<b>TOTAL - Commodities .....</b>	<b>19,094</b>	<b>18,793</b>	<b>37,887</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>19%</b>
Repair Work - Motor .....	766	1,548	2,314	6	10	68%
- Other .....	1,469	1,456	2,925	3	4	30%
Meals & Accom., Cafes, Hotels.	1,323	2,594	3,917	12	16	30%
Hairdressing .....	1,660	1,450	3,110	2	2	8%
<b>TOTAL - Other Takings .....</b>				<b>23</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>41%</b>

(a) Number of establishments selling any goods specified. Total shows number of individual retail establishments operating.

(b) Sydney & Suburbs as defined for Census purposes, equal to 49% of State total.

AUSTRALIA. Preliminary sales figures for Australia, excluding the Capital and Northern Territories, showed an increase of 19% between 1948-49 and 1949-50 from £1,145m. to £1,363 mill. The largest proportional rise was in the motor vehicles, parts and petrol group with 53% as against increases of 13% in food-stuffs and 10% in the clothing group.

SYDNEY STOCK EXCHANGE.

The upward movement in share prices gathered further strength in April. Appreciable increases were recorded for all types of shares; the index for 34 active shares advanced by 2½% over the month and was then 20% higher than in April 1950. The Industrial series rose by 28% over the year.

INDEX OF SHARE PRICES - Sydney (Compiled by N.S.W. Govt. Statistician)  
Prices of Ordinary Shares (excl. Banks) - Par Value = 100.

	Manufact'g & Distributing	Retail	Public Utilities	Pastoral Finance	Insurance	Total 75 Companies	34 Active Shares
1939-August	212.6	168.2	156.0	118.2	263.9	174.4	181.9
1942-March	173.0	138.3	120.8	110.3	213.7	140.6	147.0
1946-December	292.4	251.6	197.3	160.7	322.5	229.7	247.2
1949-April	338.8	286.9	160.7	171.0	466.5	250.7	255.8
1950-April	397.8	317.6	157.8	210.8	568.9	292.6	294.3
1951-January	485.6	374.8	166.3	308.2	680.6	346.9	349.0
-February	486.1	380.6	167.7	309.9	696.5	349.3	346.4
-March	492.4	385.2	168.7	305.2	698.6	350.3	343.3
-April	509.0	393.1	172.0	309.6	707.6	356.1	352.0
<b>BASIS - YEAR 1947 = 100</b>							
1951- April	154.3	126.8	88.9	181.9	181.1	139.2	130.9



# NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS.

During the nine months ended March departmental expenditure rose from £26.00 mill. in 1948-49 to £30.31 mill. in 1949-50 and £35.04 mill. in 1950-51. These increases were matched by higher receipts from tax reimbursements, State taxes and services revenue. Higher fares, introduced towards the end of 1950, have brought the revenue of the railways and Trams & buses near to the current level of expenditure on business account without leaving a surplus for the annual debt charges. A surplus of £545,000 on account of the business undertakings for the nine months ended March 1951 was achieved only through the favourable result from the maritime services (£620,000). In earlier post-war years the transport undertakings together yielded a surplus of from £4 mill. to £6 mill. in the nine months period. The total deficiency on the State accounts for the nine months was £6.10 mill this year as against £2.59 mill. in 1949-50 and £1.77 mill. in 1948-49. Works expenditure from loan funds in the nine months of 1950-51, £23 mill., was substantially higher than in earlier years.

## NEW SOUTH WALES ACCOUNTS - £ thousands.

Revenue Item.	Nine Months ended March		Budget Year	Expenditure Item	Nine Months ended March		Budget Year
	1950	1951	1950-51		1950	1951	1950-51
From Commonwealth(1)	17,479	20,530	33,450x	Net Debt Charges	11,432	12,425	16,509
State Taxation	8,166	9,982	12,544	Other, excluding Debt Charges:-			
Other Governmental	9,182	10,310	14,345	Governmental	30,307	35,039	48,967
Railways (2)	31,575	35,084	51,311	Railways	27,929	35,029	46,461
Trams & Buses (2)	7,003	7,671	10,764	Trams & Buses	6,825	7,803	11,269
Sydney Harbour	1,204	1,428	1,707	Sydney Harbour	710	806	1,139
TOTAL REVENUE	74,609	85,005	124,121	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	77,203	91,102	124,345

(1) Reimbursement of taxes and payments towards interest.

(2) Including in 1949 Commonwealth grant for strike losses; £3 mill. for railways and £200,000 for trams and buses.

x It was announced on 15th March that the Commonwealth tax reimbursements for New South Wales for the year 1950-51 would be raised from £30.53 mill. to £36.78 mill.

## REAL ESTATE AND MORTGAGES - New South Wales.

The number and value of real estate transactions (as shown in transfer documents) continue to increase. In the first four months of 1951 sales averaged £15 mill. a month compared with £11 mill. and £5 mill. in 1950 and 1949. The value of mortgages has not risen quite in proportion to sales since 1949. In the early post-war years it was equivalent to about one half of sales as against about one third in 1950 and 1951.

## REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS - New South Wales.

	Yearly Av. & Year.			4 Months ended April			
	1936-38	1949	1950	1948	1949	1950	1951
SALES - Transactions No.	44,375	92,895	109,767	24,399	27,381	32,524	35,016
Consideration £mill.	36.11	82.26	165.00	19.60	20.66	43.77	62.79
MORTGAGES -							
Consideration £mill.	23.76	44.89	65.58	11.06	11.04	15.94	23.82



PART III - RURAL INDUSTRIES.

THE SEASON.

Rainfall was below average over most of the State in March (excepting the Coast) and April. Pastures have dried off and stock is being hand-fed in some districts. All wheat districts are suffering under dry conditions. Soil preparation and sowing have been delayed, and field reports indicate that the area sown to wheat this season will be comparatively small.

RAINFALL INDEX - NEW SOUTH WALES - "Normal Rainfall" = 100 for each Month and Year.

	Sheep Districts.					Wheat Districts.				Coastal Dairying Districts..			
	N.	C.	S.	W.	Total	N.	C.	S.	Total.	N.	C.	S.	Total
1947-Year	126	131	119	145	127	118	130	124	125	118	109	96	118
1948-Year	102	103	99	92	101	98	100	96	97	106	95	96	102
1949-Year	126	112	110	129	117	126	113	110	113	107	147	129	120
1950-Year	176	212	164	195	184	170	194	160	170	173	188	209	182
1951-Jan.	177	145	62	80	120	143	145	56	90	240	375	183	268
-Feb.	77	102	134	63	101	82	88	131	114	76	72	190	90
-Mar.	86	72	11	20	50	65	74	9	33	125	136	113	126
-Apr.	39	51	94	29	59	46	53	91	75	32	31	16	30

DAIRYING.

New South Wales dairy output declined seasonally in February and March at a faster rate than last year. Factory butter production for the nine months ended March totalled 66½ mill. lbs. in 1951, as against 68 mill. lbs. in 1950 which was the highest post-war figure.

PRODUCTION OF BUTTER IN FACTORIES - New South Wales.  
(million lbs.)

Period.	Average 3 years ended		1946-47	1948-49	1949-50	1950-51
	June 1940	June 1946				
July to March	89.72	65.08	46.36	59.76	67.97	66.42
April to June	24.21	12.88	14.02	14.76	14.50	.
Year	113.93	77.96	60.38	74.52	82.47	.

Wholemilk deliveries to the Milk Board in the first quarter of 1951 were at the level of last year and cream deliveries increased substantially. But because of the subsequent seasonal decline in deliveries milk supplies to households were cut as from 25th April and cream supplies were restricted to consumers holding a medical certificate.

MILK SUPPLIES TO NEW SOUTH WALES MILK BOARD (mill. gall.)

	Year	Year	Year	12 Weeks ended March-April			
	1948	1949	1950	1948	1949	1950	1951
Milk sold as							
WHOLEMILK - Sydney	47.3	47.5	47.3	11.2	11.6	11.9	11.8
Other Areas	7.1	7.7	8.4	1.7	1.8	2.1	2.2
CREAM (a) All Areas	1.2	1.3	3.2	.3	.3	.3	1.1
TOTAL (a)	55.6	56.5	58.9	13.2	13.7	14.3	15.1

(a) Wholemilk equivalent.

Wholemilk production in New South Wales during the eight months ended February 1951, 220 mill. gall., was 2% greater than in the same period of 1949-50. It appears that the current level of dairy output as a whole is back to the level of the immediate pre-war years; butter production has fallen by about a quarter but correspondingly more milk is being used as fresh milk and for processing into condensory products.

/MILK PRODUCTION ....



MILK PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION, New South Wales.

Year ended June --	Milk Used						Total Yield Milk
	On Farms Butter	In Factories for			Supplied to Milk Board.	Other Uses.	
		Butter,	Cheese.	Condensing etc. (a)			
		Million gallons -- wholemilk equivalent					
Av.1937-39	15.1	220.4	7.5	12.1	24.6	39.3	319.0
1947	11.8	124.2	4.8	24.1	52.0	37.2	254.1
1948	11.7	156.4	6.0	28.6	55.7	37.0	295.4
1949	12.7	153.3	5.5	28.3	56.1	36.0	291.9
1950	13.5	169.6	6.3	26.6	56.5	39.1	311.6

(a) Including milk supplied to factories outside the State.

WOOL.

By the end of March, when usually 80% to 85% of the clip has reached the stores, receipts in New South Wales for 1950-51 had totalled 1.13 mill. lbs. that is 23,000 bales less than in the same period of last year. Deliveries for the whole year 1949-50 were 1.34 mill. lbs., the greatest since 1943-44. Sales have proceeded fairly rapidly during the current season and at the end of March only 137,000 bales were unsold in stores. The value of sales up to the end of March 1951 was £191 mill., or twice that of last year and more than four times the yield of the nine months ended March 1949. Proceeds for the nine months of 1950-51 in Australia were £513 mill. as against £225 mill. in the corresponding period of 1949-50 (£287 mill. for the whole 1949-50 season). The average value per bale of greasy wool rose from £77 in the nine months of 1949-50 to £188 in 1950-51.

RECEIVALS, DISPOSALS AND STOCKS OF WOOL.  
(N.S.W. Stores, excl. Albury -Thousand Bales)

Value of Sales	1950-51			1949-50	1948-49
	Sydney	Newcastle & Goulburn.	Total N.S.W.	Total N.S.W.	Total N.S.W.
Carry over from June	12	1	13	79	15
Receipts in July-March	923	210	1133	1156	1071
Total	935	211	1146	1235	1086
Disposals, July-March x	819	190	1009	1193	747
Balance in Store at end of March	116	21	137	42	339
Value of Sales August-March £mill.	153.0	37.6	190.6	89.0	45.4

x Sales and shipments on store.

After a sustained upward trend lasting from October 1950 to March 1951 wool prices in Australia eased at the sales held early in April and fluctuated considerably for the rest of the month. Short, faulty carbonising types, which had risen most early in the season, were particularly affected but prices for the better-class wools also receded. Recent movements in certain types are shown below.

PRICES QUOTED AT N.S.W. SALES.

Clean Basis.	June 1948.	June 1950.	6/3/1951.	14/5/1951.
70's & up - Spinners Good Fleece ..	120d.	186d.	390d.	340d.
64/70's Average Spinners & best topmaking	110d.	182d.	384d.	316d.
60/58's Crossbred Combing, good free of burr	84d.	144d.	350d.	266d.
do. average, medium burr	66d.	120d.	320d.	336d.
64's & up. Pieces & bellics, carbonising	60d.	96d.	326d.	200d.
Full clip average for month-greasy basis	45d.	78½d.	190½d.	145d. (Apr.)

Trade circles ascribe the market irregularity to the following factors: uncertainty about the outcome of international talks about commodity acquisitions, fitful American buying, and a hesitant attitude by mills in anticipation of price falls. However, they expect the market to remain firm owing to the shortage of supplies of wool (as well as of other fibres which could serve as partial substitutes) while the demand for civilian and defence purposes remains very high, and also because of the resumption of American /buying early...



buying early in May after the raising of Government ceiling prices by about 20%. The New South Wales average for April 1951, 145d. was 45d. below the March peak but still more ~~than twice the 1949-50~~ average.

AVERAGE PRICE OF GREASY WOOL - NEW SOUTH WALES - Pence per lb. greasy.

Season ended 30th June	d. per lb.	Month (a)	d. per lb.
1939	10.3	1950 - March	69.5
1947	23.6	June	78.5
1948	37.9	September	118.0
1949	46.8	1951 - March	190.5 (b)
1950	61.8	April	145.0 (b)

(a) Average that would be realised if whole clip were sold at price level of that month. (b) Subject to revision.

Details of Australia's wool exports during the first seven months of the current selling season (Sept. 1950 to March 1951) are shown below. The quantity shipped, equivalent to 719 mill. lbs. greasy, was less than in 1949-50 mainly because of smaller consignments to the United Kingdom and some other European countries. Shipments to the United States were about the same as in the 1949-50 period and those to Japan were increased. In spite of the smaller quantity the total export value of £383 mill. in the 1950-51 period was twice that of the previous year and more than ten times the value for pre-war years. In value the distribution by countries in the 1950-51 period was as follows (compared with that of the seven months ended March 1938, shown in brackets) United Kingdom 31% (45%), United States 18% (1%), France 12% (16%), Belgium 8% (10%), Italy 7% (4%) Soviet Russia 2% (nil), Japan 8% (7%), Germany 5% (10%), other countries 9% (7%).

WOOL EXPORTS - AUSTRALIA - Seven Months ended March

Destination.	Quantity as in grease (a)				Value		
	1938	1949	1950	1951	1938	1950	1951
	million lbs.				£ million		
United Kingdom (b)	252	266	320	230	14.88	69.90	120.50
France	103	154	97	93	5.32	19.89	48.06
Belgium	66	62	82	61	3.31	14.04	30.18
Italy	23	85	42	45	1.38	8.69	26.97
U.S.A.	3	50	110	108	0.21	28.25	67.49
U.S.S.R.	.	31	28	10	.	9.07	6.64
Japan	39	12	43	53	2.34	11.20	28.72
Germany	41	6	42	33	3.29	9.70	18.52
Others	54	81	83	86	2.39	20.08	36.07
TOTAL (b)	581	747	852	719	33.12	190.82	383.14

(a) 1 lb. of scoured wool, tops, noils, waste etc. taken as equivalent to 2 lbs. of greasy wool.

(b) Includes shipments of J.O. Wool, about £6½ mill. in September-March 1950 and again £6½ mill. in September-February 1951; March 1951 not yet available.